

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

July 10, 2023

Massachusetts Broadband Institute 75 North Drive Westborough, MA 01581

RE: Letter of support for Municipal Digital Equity Planning Program

Dear Grant Committee:

First of all, good health to you and your families. The City of Springfield is pleased to submit an application to the Digital Equity Planning Program through the Massachusetts Broadband Institute to further our comprehensive work around advancing digital equity in Springfield.

Mitigating the inequities within the fast-paced digital economy is a top priority for me and my administration. We recognize the tremendous impact that the digital divide continues to have on our community in myriad ways, from basic access to skills and training, especially among our underresourced residents and members of the city's immigrant communities. The Municipal Digital Equity Program will provide crucial assistance in Springfield's efforts to develop sustainable and equitable practices and initiatives around technology usage. These invaluable investments will better the lives of our most vulnerable residents, granting them access to promising opportunities and an enhanced quality of life.

Springfield is excited to begin this important work as we know the subsequent outcomes will establish a firm foundation to support our region's ongoing efforts toward an equitable digital economy, benefiting both present and future generations.

Godbless .

Thank you for your consideration of Springfield's application.

Respectfully,

Domenic J. Sarno

Mayor